Office Distribution

Whiting or Sater - Int. 2879



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15. 1949.

NEW FISH HATCHERIES TO PROVIDE BETTER FISHING

Fishermen can expect to benefit in a few years from the construction of several new fish hatcheries and the repair and improvement of existing hatcheries, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports.

A recent Congressional appropriation of \$566,000, in addition to the regular allotment for operations and continuation of construction of the new trout rearing facilities at McNenny, South Dakota will make it possible to start the construction of two new fish hatcheries, and repair, enlarge and modernize ten old hatcheries. A supplemental appropriation of \$706,000 will be used to start the construction of two new fish-cultural stations and to initiate a program to complete the construction of eleven hatcheries.

Funds that were made available for the completion of projects are to be used for work on units that were in various stages of construction at the start of the war. Shortage of man-power, supplies and funds prevented completion of the projects prior to this time.

Many other hatchery and fish-cultural stations were constructed prior to the turn of the century when the methods of fish-culture and stocking procedures were far different from those of today. The great increase in the demand for game-fish for restocking purposes has made it necessary to enlarge and improve fish rearing facilities to meet present-day techniques that are required for producing large numbers of warm-water fish and legal-sized trout.

It was the intent of Congress that the major portion of the additional funds were to be used to increase the rearing facilities at existing hatcheries, so that these hatcheries can be more adequately utilized. In addition, a lake trout hatchery is to be constructed at a site to be selected in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The sum of \$3,000 was included in the supplemental appropriation to survey the Great Lakes area for determining localities most suitable for establishment of fish hatcheries and rearing ponds.

An allotment was included for the purchase of property and to initiate the construction of a new warm-water fish hatchery near Millen, Georgia. This hatchery will serve the eastern part of Georgia and western South Carolina. Also included in the supplemental appropriations are funds to complete smallmouth Black Bass facilities at the Cape Vincent, New York, Hatchery.

Listed below are the hatcheries that will benefit from the appropriations which have been provided for the construction program. The funds indicated are not sufficient to complete all of the work undertaken, and additional funds will be needed in subsequent years to complete the program.

New Hatcheries: Bald Hill Dam, North Dakota (\$86,000); North Attleboro, Massachusetts (\$90,400); Millen, Georgia (\$81,000); and Upper Peninsula of Michigan (\$92,500).

Continuation of building program and increase rearing facilities: Cape Vincent, New York (\$70,000); Leadville, Colorado, (\$90,000); Hagerman, Idaho (\$66,000); Tishomingo, Oklahoma (\$48,500); Hebron, Chio (\$75,000); New London, Minnesota (\$30,000); Corning, Arkansas (\$24,000); Berlin, New Hampshire (\$35,000); Meridian, Mississippi (\$36,000); Harrison Lake, Virginia (\$25,000); and Lamar, Pennsylvania (\$30,000).

Repair and modernize existing hatcheries and provide additional rearing facilities: Erwin, Tennessee (\$21,500); Nashua, New Hampshire (\$28,000); Warm Springs, Georgia (\$66,000); Hot Springs (Elephant Butte), New Mexico (\$23,000); Dexter, New Mexico (\$21,900); Quilcene, Washington (\$101,300); Ennis, Montana (\$29,500); Bozeman, Montana (\$21,400); White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia (\$20,500); and Williams Creek (McNarry), Arizona (\$56,500).

 $x \times x$